RG104 E-1 Box 136 Oct-Dec 1885

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 21 October —, 1885.

Sir,

I have read and carefully considered your letter tome of the 17th Inst., and because of the complications arising from the interlacing of the time of workmen, adopted with a view to economy, I ask for a short time to consider the subject, perhaps a week or more, before suggesting changes designed for economy in the Melting and Refining Department. My first examination of the details of work, made within the last day or two, has led me to believe that the cost of wages may be diminished without impeding readiness for any probable variation of work demanded, or without diminishing the present capacity for the variety of work that

RG104 E-1 Box 136 Oct-Dec 1885

is now demanded, or that has been heretofore executed.

One of the greatest difficulties that strikes me at sight is "to specify kind of work done," when the same man is employed on one day in a considerable variety of occupations and it may prove difficult to specify kind of work and amount of time spent on each. Having never studied clerical work in accounts, I may be at fault, but I will do what I can, especially as it may lead to an improved conduct of my Department.

May I solicit you to convey the above views to the Department, from which the Instructions you received emanated.

Very Respectfully
I A C Booth
M & R.

Hon. Dan'l M. Fox
Superintendent.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 136

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Melting and Refining Department,
Philadelphia,
October 21, 1885

Sir,

I have read and carefully considered your letter to me of the 17th Inst., and because of the complications arising from the interlacing of the time of workmen, adopted with a view to economy, I ask for a short time to consider the subject, perhaps a week or more, before suggesting changes designed for economy in the Melting and Refining Department. My first examination of the details of work, made within the last day or two, has led me to believe that the cost of wages may be diminished without impeding readiness for any probable variation of work demanded, or without diminishing the present capacity for the variety of work that is now demanded, or that has been heretofore executed.

One of the greatest difficulties that strikes me at sight is "to specify kind of work done", when the same man is employed on one day in a considerable variety of occupations and it may prove difficult to specify kind of work and amount of time spent on each. Having never studied clerical work in accounts, I may be at fault, but I will do what I can, especially as it may lead to an improved conduct of my Department.

May I solicit you to convey the above views to the Department from which the Instructions you received emanated.

Very Respectfully
Jas. C. Booth
M & R

Hon. Danl. M. Fox
Superintendent.